



Office of the Head of Primary Care
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11th March 2024

Ms Jennifer Murnane O'Connor, TD
Dail Eireann
Leinster House
Dublin

PQ 44676/23: To ask the Minister for Health if a new chronic disease management hub will become fully operational in County Kilkenny; the staffing details that would be required for the Hub; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Murnane O'Connor,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which was submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

I have reviewed the matter and the following is the current position.

The Chronic Disease Hub that covers the Carlow/Kilkenny area commenced operation in September 2022. A graduated operation of the service has occurred since this date in line with recruitment of staff.

In the Chronic Disease Hub to date 26 posts have been successfully recruited, there remains a 9.2 wte staffing deficit spread over Diabetes (6.0 wte), Cardiology (2.2 wte) and Respiratory (1.0 wte) Services.

The 3 Chronic Disease Management Consultants have been successfully recruited and provide Consultant services for Respiratory, Cardiology and Endocrine Chronic Disease on a 50/50 basis between St. Luke's hospital and Community Chronic Disease Services.

Clinics are currently held in Shamrock Plaza Primary Care Centre, Thomastown Primary Care Centre, Community Care HQ James Green and Tullow Health Centre. Additional aspects of the programme are also undertaken in various community settings, e.g. the Discover Diabetes programme and the pulmonary Rehabilitation programme.

I trust this information is of assistance to you. Should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Anna-Marie Lamgan".

Anna-Marie Lamgan,
Head of Service Primary Care,
Assistant National Director,
South East Community Healthcare